

TEXTBOOK OF PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY—2nd Edition. George H. Bell, B.Sc., M.D. (Glasg.), F.R.F.P.S.G., F.R.S.E., Professor of Physiology in the University of St. Andrews; J. Norman Davidson, M.D., D.Sc. (Edin.), F.R.F.P.S.G., F.R.I.C., F.R.S.E., Gardiner Professor of Physiological Chemistry in the University of Glasgow; and Harold Scarborough, M.B., Ph.D. (Edin.), F.R.C.P.E., Professor of Medicine in the Welsh National School of Medicine of the University of Wales. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd., U. S. distribution by Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, 1953. 1002 pages, \$12.00.

The second edition of this excellent book consists of a considerable rearrangement of some of the chapters, and the addition of many new references in the chapter bibliographies, but actually has little new material. Often sentences and paragraphs are rewritten to give the modern emphasis. New material added includes a diagram of the structure of the subunit of insulin, formulas of ribonucleic acid and desoxyribonucleic acid, loss of iron in sweat and hair, more exact location of the site of conversion of carotene to vitamin A, newly discovered portions of the vitamin A cycle in the retina, additional color photographs of patients with vitamin deficiency, a table of the nutritional value of different parts of the wheat grain, improvements on the Krebs cycle, additional knowledge of the mineral metabolism of heart muscle, newer information on the innervation of the tongue, and the hyperglycemic factor of the alpha cells of the islands of Langerhans. There is the same number of chapters, but 84 additional pages.

This book has successfully combined biochemistry and physiology, with the omission of very little which would be of interest to the medical student or the practitioner. It is not, however, a book for the advanced student. The first nine chapters are a discussion of the chemical composition of the body and of foods, while the remaining 47 chapters deal with physiology in relation to chemical structure and energy-releasing reactions in the cells. The reviewer recommends the book to anyone who does not own the first edition.

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FRONTAL LOBES AND SCHIZOPHRENIA—The Second Lobotomy Project of Boston Psychopathic Hospital. Edited by Milton Greenblatt, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor in Psychiatry; and Harry C. Solomon, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry, both of Harvard Medical School and the Boston Psychopathic Hospital. Springer Publishing Company, 44 East 23rd St., New York 10, 1953. 425 pages, \$12.50.

This report is essential reading for the psychiatrist who must on occasion consider psychosurgery for his patients. It deals extensively with the results of such operations on specific aspects of brain function as well as with the integrated functioning of the individual. All of the material is not easy to digest, and probably the book can best be used as a reference for specific problems rather than a means of getting a comprehensive view of the value of lobotomy. It does not give any sure answers, but presents a good deal of factual data and is stimulative of thought.

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A PRIMER OF CARDIOLOGY—2nd Edition. George E. Burch, M.D., F.A.C.P., Henderson Professor of Medicine, Tulane University School of Medicine. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1953. 339 pages, 214 illustrations, \$5.50.

This book was designed as an introduction to cardiology for medical students and physicians. Its content varies from statements like "barium sulfate is radiopaque" to complex formulae (pages 96-97) that few physicians can understand. It is further inconsistent in that sometimes the reader is referred to other sources for full discussion of some topics, whereas other equally important subjects are dealt with in minute detail. The diagrammatic illustrations of the heart

are not good. Some diagrams are shown unnecessarily several times, even occasionally on the front and back of a page or facing on each of two pages.

One might take issue with the blanket statement that a patient with uncomplicated myocardial infarction should stay for six weeks in bed without lavatory privileges. Further, one wonders how often the author follows his recommendation of advising the patient to go to bed for four weeks when the diagnosis of angina pectoris is made. He generally proscribes the use of caffeine, alcoholic beverages and tobacco in heart disease without presenting evidence as to their harm. There is no discussion of cor pulmonale or mention of pronestyl. The sections on the cardiac neuroses, congenital heart disease and bedside diagnosis of cardiac irregularities are good.

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CLINICAL ROENTGENOLOGY—Volume I—Developmental and Systemic Conditions and Local Lesions in the Extremities. Alfred A. de Lorimier, M.D., Radiologist, St. Francis Memorial Hospital, San Francisco; Henry G. Moehring, M.D., Radiologist, Duluth Clinic; John H. Hannan, M.D., Radiologist, Cleveland, Ohio (all formerly directors of the Army School of Roentgenology). Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, 1954. 492 pages, 782 illustrations, \$18.50.

A new and decidedly desirable approach to the subject of "Clinical Roentgenology" is made in the first volume of this series, three more of which are to be published later. In volume one, which is limited to developmental and systemic conditions and local lesions of the extremities, the quality of the radiographs is generally excellent, and the format makes for ready reference. In addition to the radiographs, a useful resume of the clinical findings is also given, and, when appropriate, pertinent laboratory data.

Although in the present state of our knowledge of bone disease it is unlikely that experts will be in complete agreement on classification, these authors have made a good attempt. The comments on differential diagnosis included in most chapters are, like the numerous synonyms which are listed for the various disease processes, often helpful in the usually difficult task of diagnosing and classifying unusual bone diseases.

Although primarily a convenient reference work, this volume will make good reading for any physician who is interested in filling the gaps in his knowledge of the complicated topic of bone diseases.

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DISABILITY EVALUATION—Principles of Treatment of Compensable Injuries—5th Edition. Earl D. McBride, B.S., M.D., F.A.C.S., Assistant Professor in Orthopedic Surgery, University of Oklahoma School of Medicine. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1953. 715 pages, \$15.00.

This is the fifth edition of this standard work, "Disability Evaluation." The sections which relate to the method of approximate evaluation for partial and permanent disability are excellent. This is a very difficult problem and though the method used by the author may not apply to every state, the principles behind the method are universally applicable.

A large segment of the book concerns itself with discussion of methods of treatment and though they may represent the author's experience, the discussion of medical treatment in a book of this type does not appear to be proper.

A more concise edition limited to the evaluation of disability alone would make it much more useful to the average practicing physician.

The book does have a very definite value to anyone in the field of industrial or compensation medicine and surgery. In this one respect it is highly recommended.